

To: Glenda Wiles, Administrative Assistant  
Ravalli County Commissioners Office  
215 S. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite A  
Hamilton, MT 59840

Re: Expansion of Lost Horse quarry

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JUL 05 2007

Ravalli County Commissioners


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I am responding to the plan between Ravalli County Road Department and the Forest Service to expand the quarry at Lost Horse Canyon. I am concerned that expanding the quarry will result in a negative impact to the community of rock climbers who use this area all year round. As Co-Owner of an indoor climbing gym in Bozeman (Spire Climbing Center) I have a strong connection with the climbing community not just in the Bozeman area, but all throughout Montana.

I, as well as many of our customers travel to Lost Horse all months of the year to boulder and climb. Climbers do not use this area only in the summer. In fact, Oct-Nov and March-April are the great conditions for climbing, as long the area is accessible. I feel that making the quarry any larger will increase safety hazards, as well as take away from the aesthetics of enjoying a day out climbing. I also assume that many large trucks and machinery will be using the roads and creating unnecessary noise and dust pollution.

Please, if there are any other options that will not impact this special area I encourage you to look in to them. I hope that Lost Horse can be kept a peaceful recreation area and not turned in to an industrial mess.

Sincerely



Jeff Ho

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